

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 011381

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. VARIED ARAB ATTITUDES TOWARD ENERGY CONFERENCE

A. SAUDIS PASSIVELY DOUBTFUL...

EMBASSY JIDDA REPORTS THAT PRELIMINARY SAUDI REACTIONS TO THE PROPOSED ENERGY CONFERENCE ARE NONCOMMITTAL BUT COULD BECOME NEGATIVE IF OFFICIALS ADOPT THE POSITION THAT THE US WANTS TO CREATE A CONSUMER BLOC TO DESTROY PRODUCERS. THE EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO PERSUADE THE SAUDIS THAT COOPERATION AND DISCUSSION ARE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 250, 1/17.

B. ...BUT WARM KUWAITI RESPONSE REPORTED

KUWAITI MINISTER OF FINANCE AND OIL ATIQUI TOLD AMBASSADOR STOLTZFUS THAT HE APPROVES OF MEETINGS BETWEEN PRODUCERS
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AND CONSUMERS, AND HE PRAISED THE TONE AND SUBSTANCE OF

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE AMIR. HE URGED, HOWEVER, THAT ANY HINT OF CONFRONTATION BE AVOIDED AND IMPLIED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES SHOULD NOT PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN ENERGY DISCUSSIONS. (CONFIDENTIAL) KUWAIT 215, 1/17.

2. LIBYAN REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCED MERGER

EMBASSY TUNIS BELIEVES THAT BECAUSE OF QADHAFI'S DOMINANCE, THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL ON THE TUNISIAN UNION ISSUE, AND THAT THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE UNDER DOMESTIC PRESSURE TO EXPLAIN THE ANNOUNCED MERGER. THE TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR IS WATCHING FOR QADHAFI'S REACTION TO THE TUNIS SLOWDOWN WITH APPREHENSION, FEARING POSSIBLE MEASURES AGAINST THE 30,000 TUNISIANS PRESENTLY IN LIBYA. (CONFIDENTIAL) TRIPOLI 70, 1/17.

3. TANAKA'S REACTION TO JAKARTA RIOTS

AN OFFICIAL OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS TOLD EMBASSY JAKARTA THAT PRIME MINISTER TANAKA WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH HIS RECEPTION IN INDONESIA BUT THAT HE WAS NOT ENTIRELY SURPRISED AND STILL CONSIDERS INDONESIA MORE STABLE THAN THAILAND. THE EMBASSY COMMENTS THAT ALTHOUGH THE DISTURBANCES ARE UNLIKELY TO AFFECT JAPANESE ASSISTANCE AND INVESTMENT IN EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES, INVESTMENTS IN OTHER AREAS MAY SUFFER. (CONFIDENTIAL) JAKARTA 699, 1/17. RUSH

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